

**25TH AUGUST
2015**

LEVEL 4 NEWSLETTER

**TERM 3
WEEK 7
2015**

WELCOME

WHAT'S ON?

Students have been busy working through a variety of tasks about Antarctica. It has been pleasing to see the creativity with the explorer homework tasks that they recently completed.

We are busy training/preparing for our Summer sport starting this week. The netball team play this Wednesday in finals and we wish them all the best as they proceed to the next level of competition.

Ski camp was enjoyable for all last week. The weather was fabulous and from all accounts, students had a wonderful time and were well behaved.

Congratulations to our Tour-

nament of Minds team who won after their fantastic presentation on Saturday at Lilydale. Thanks to Alisha O'Brien for all the time she has put into the team and for giving up her Saturday to be there for the team. They now compete in Bundoora on Sunday 13th September..

Students are busy decorating their classroom doors with Mathematics and Literacy work. We have been busy writing Haiku and Cinquain poetry about Antarctica and other interests. There has been some wonderful pieces of writing which is on display in the Learning Centre.

Literacy and Numeracy Week is next week. We look forward to

a fun week ahead.

IMPORTANT DATES

27th August ORANGE DAY

28th August Interschool Sport

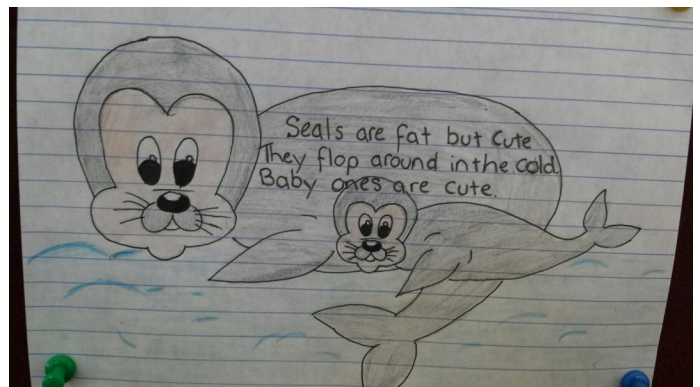
31st August Literacy and Numeracy Week

7th September Zoo excursion

8th September Level 4 Planning Day

11th September Interschool Sport

18th September Footy Finals Fever Day



Literacy and Numeracy Week

Literacy and Numeracy Week will be held from 31st August to 4th September. The week begins with our usual assembly and character parade. All Level 4 students need to wear black or white clothing and have splotches

on their clothing to make patterns for the Dalmation character. Staff of course will be dressed up too. Tuesday we have an incursion with Raymond J Bartholomew visiting us. The Drama Group will also be presenting a play

based on the book *The Day the Crayons Quit*.

The Father's Day stall will also be held during this week. Students can bring a plastic bag and an envelope with their money in it. A time has been set aside for all grades.



eSmart News

As Vermont Primary continues on our journey towards eSmart accreditation, the school will be running a number of different activities during the inaugural eSmart Week – September 7 -11. The children will complete some simple eSmart awareness activities during their library session and parents will have the opportunity to see if they are “Smarter Than a Grade Sixer” by completing the online digital challenge – so stay tuned.

Our eSmart committee have been working hard and one of the things we are currently looking into is ways that students and parents can report cybersafety concerns or problems. We will be asking for parent feedback in the coming weeks on how this might best be done. In the meantime the first point of contact should be your classroom teacher. For serious issues there is a link on the new eSafety government page. [Click here to access the page.](#)

Finally I'd like to take this opportunity to remind parents that social media programs do have minimum ages for account holders. Most require users to be at least 13 years old, some are even older. To find out more about minimum ages and how safe these different sites are go to <https://www.esafety.gov.au/esafety-information/games-apps-and-social-networking> . This link also gives you great information on how to protect yourself by having the right privacy settings etc.

Cybersafety is becoming increasingly important and whilst the students are working in class to develop these skills, we need, as always to work together with parents to help keep our children safe.

If you have any questions or concerns you can come and see me or email me on hall.julie.j1@edumail.vic.gov.au

Julie Hall

STUDENT USE OF MOBILE PHONES AND TECHNOLOGY

All Level 4 students who bring a phone to school, must either hand their phone in to the office before school or give it to their class teacher who will then organise for it to be housed at the office.

Parents should always monitor their child's internet usage. This can be done by ensuring they use technology in common household areas, not in bedrooms behind closed doors. Please remember that the legal age for Facebook accounts is 13. If your child uses something like Instagram, ensure you do too and follow their activity by following them as a user.

It is advisable to keep the lines of communication open by discussing issues to do with internet usage and set limits for your child's use. There should be a healthy balance between family time, down time, physical activity and school work.

Please ensure that you inform your child's teacher immediately should there be any issues regarding cyberbullying or situations where your child feels uncomfortable because of messaging or texting from peers.

<https://esafety.gov.au/education-resources/parent-resources>

The above website is an excellent resource for you to access regarding online concepts. Please take the time to look at the site.

LEVEL 4 ZOO EXCURSION

All Level 4 students head to the Melbourne Zoo on 7th September for a fun day of exploring and learning. Students need to be at the Terrara Oval carpark by 8:45am on that day so we can leave promptly at 9am.

Students will be divided into small groups of 9 or 10 and will be accompanied by a staff member or parent as they complete challenges around the zoo. This excursion will continue regardless of the weather so students should come prepared if it is forecast to rain on the day.

MANNER OF THE MONTH—SEPTEMBER

September's Manner of the Month will be POSITIVE LEARNER. We hope to encourage all students to be positive about themselves as a learner through accepting challenges that they may face, realising that making mistakes is part of the learning process and strive to do their best. You can support this at home by ensuring your child presents all homework tasks to the best of their ability and to share positive experiences about your own schooling with your child. Telling your child "I hated Maths when I was at school" sends negative messages about the subject. Being a positive learner helps students set positive examples for their peers, creates an encouraging, highly motivated atmosphere in the classroom and allows students to move forward with the learning process.

TRANSITION

Year 6 students recently received their notification of a position at a State Secondary school. In term 1, Year 5 parents were offered the opportunity to attend an information session about the transition process. Transition can be a stressful time for students generally because of fear of the unknown. There are some things that you can do to help alleviate that fear.

- Involve your child in conversations about transition earlier rather than later. Year 5 is a great time to take them to a prospective school to take a tour.
- Book a tour for yourself and your child in Year 6. Once you have decided on a school, it is advisable to have a look around, attend an open evening and encourage your child to ask questions.
- If your child is feeling apprehensive in term 4 of their final year of Primary School, inform your teacher. We often take a small number of children to their new school for a tour to show the "nitty gritty" of the school setting.